

Jim Henson's
RETURN TO
LABYRINTH

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COVER ART BY: KOUYU SHUREI

Manga
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"A GREAT BOOK

THAT FANS OF THE

ORIGINAL ARE

SURE TO LOVE."

-A.E. VAN DER ZAND

BASED ON THE CLASSIC HIT FILM!

Jim Henson's RETURN TO LABYRINTH™

FOR TOBY, AS IT IS FOR ALL WHO ENTER THE
LABYRINTH, THE WAY FORWARD IS SOMETIMES
THE WAY BACK...

THROUGH DANGER UNTOLD AND HARSHIPS
UNNUMBERED, TOBY HAS FINALLY ARRIVED
AT THE DAY OF HIS CORONATION. BUT HE IS
STILL UNABLE TO CONTROL THE LABYRINTH,
TREACHERY AND DECEIT SURROUND
HIM, AND WORSE YET—IT'S BECOME
CLEAR THAT SOME OF HIS SOON-TO-
BE SUBJECTS ARE LESS THAN
HAPPY ABOUT HIS RECENT
APPOINTMENT. TOBY WILL HAVE
TO KEEP HIS WITS ABOUT HIM
AND HIS FRIENDS BY HIS SIDE
IF HE'S GOING TO SURVIVE HIS
FIRST DAY AS KING!



Jim Henson
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Jim Henson's
RETURN TO
LABYRINTH™

Volume 3

Written by Jake T. Forbes
Illustrated by Chris Lie
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Story by Dennis Lee and Jim Henson
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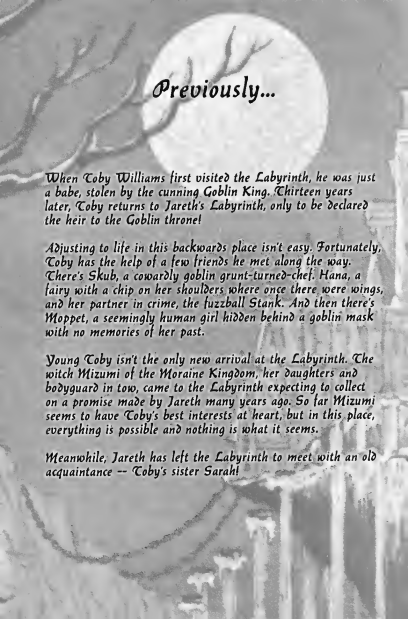


HAMBURG // LONDON // LOS ANGELES // TOKYO

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Previously...

When Toby Williams first visited the Labyrinth, he was just a babe, stolen by the cunning Goblin King. Thirteen years later, Toby returns to Jareth's Labyrinth, only to be declared the heir to the Goblin throne!

Adjusting to life in this backwards place isn't easy. Fortunately, Toby has the help of a few friends he met along the way. There's Skub, a cowardly goblin grunt-turned-chef. Hana, a fairy with a chip on her shoulders where once there were wings, and her partner in crime, the fuzzball Stank. And then there's Moppet, a seemingly human girl hidden behind a goblin mask with no memories of her past.

Young Toby isn't the only new arrival at the Labyrinth. The witch Mizumi of the Moraine Kingdom, her daughters and bodyguard in tow, came to the Labyrinth expecting to collect on a promise made by Jareth many years ago. So far Mizumi seems to have Toby's best interests at heart, but in this place, everything is possible and nothing is what it seems.

Meanwhile, Jareth has left the Labyrinth to meet with an old acquaintance -- Toby's sister Sarah!



PROLOGUE

When I was little, my sister would tell me the most wonderful stories...



"ONCE UPON A TIME..."



Sometimes she would read to me from old books filled with pictures of strange creatures...

"WHEN THE WIZARD AWOKE, THE SIX COLORED SUNS WERE SHINING DOWN UPON THE LAND OF THE MANGABOOS..."

"GIVE BACK THE CHILD THAT YOU HAVE STOLEN!"

...but mostly she would tell them from memory, after acting them out with props from her epic wardrobe.

I don't know where she learned these stories—I never saw them in any book or movie—but they were so vivid...Like stories from her own life

And then, one day...

...AND SO, AFTER A PARTICULARLY BAD DAY AT THE SCHOOL, THE PRINCESS LOOKED INTO HER MIRROR AND CALLED TO HER FRIENDS FOR AID...

...the stories stopped.

I was too young to remember everything about that time...

...but Dad says it was like she became another person.

She started "getting serious" about school, she gave up on theater... She even started dating.

Mom said she was just a "late bloomer."

Personally, I missed the old version.

There were some perks to her sudden transformation.

She cleaned out her bedroom and let me have all of her toys—except for the girly ones. These Mom sold off in the garage sale.



When I got older and thought
I'd outgrown the old books
and hand-me-down toys...

...and my sister went off to
college, got a job and got
engaged (it didn't last)...

...we started to
drift apart.

So why does this girl
before me remind
me so much of...

SARAH!!

Chapter 1 JARETH'S LIES

WH...WHAT ARE
YOU SAYING...?





GRRRRR...

SPONGE-HEAD
NEARLY KILLED
US!

TAKE HER TO
THE DUNGEON
TO DRY OUT.



MOTHER?



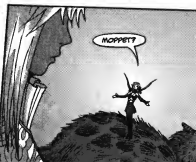
YOUR MAJESTY,
IF MY DAUGHTER
HAS OFFENDED YOUR
FRIENDS, SHE DID SO
UNBEKNOWNST
TO ME.

DO WITH HER
AS YOU WISH.



"OFFENDED"?

SHE TRIED
TO STRANGLE
MOPPET!



MOPPET?



THESE
MEMORIES...
JARETH...

OH, TOBY...
WHAT'S HAPPENING
TO ME?



What's going on?

Who's that girl?

Did someone
say it's raining
fairies?

TOBY,
MOPPET--
LET'S GO INSIDE.
WE NEED TO
TALK.



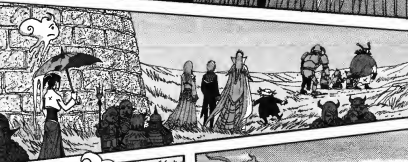
YOU'RE COMING
TOO, WATER
WITCH.



BUT YOUR HONOR,
SURELY HIS HIGHNESS
SHOULD BE PREPARING
FOR TOMORROW'S
CORONATION--



THAT CAN WAIT!





HELLO, SARAH.



...



DO I KNOW
YOU?



WE'VE MET
BEFORE, LONG
AGO. WE WERE
DIFFERENT PEOPLE
THEN.



YOU...
YOU DO SEEM
FAMILIAR. WERE
WE IN THEATER
TOGETHER?



THEATER...?
YES, THAT'S
RIGHT.

WE SHARED THE
STAGE TOGETHER. YOU AND
I. I THOUGHT OUR WORK
WAS THE STUFF OF LEGENDS.
PERHAPS IT WAS NOT SO
MEMORABLE AFTER ALL.



AS YOU SAID THAT
WAS A LONG TIME AGO.
YOU'LL HAVE TO FORGIVE
ME, BUT THERE'S A LOT I
DON'T REMEMBER.



FORGIVE MY
RUDENESS. MY NAME
IS QUINN--JARETH
QUINN...

...WEAVER
OF DREAMS.
TRAPPER OF
HEARTS...



OH GREAT... DID
HE COME HERE
TO HIT ON ME?

...APPEARING
NIGHTLY AT THE
ENIGMA LAIN
THEATER.



A SMALL
THEATER
NUTCASE--EVEN
WORSE!

THAT'S VERY
INTERESTING, MR.
QUINN. BUT WHAT ARE
YOU DOING HERE?



Jareth, please...
YOU'VE BEEN ON
MY MIND FOR SOME
TIME, SARAH, BUT IT WAS
THE RAIN THAT FORCED
ME TO ACT.

Oh no... He IS
trying to hit on
me!



MIND IF I
COME IN?

UM...

I didn't say
yes!

YOUNG MASTER TOBY,
YOU ARE AWARE THAT THIS IS
NOT YOUR FIRST TRIP TO
THE GOBLIN KINGDOM--

THAT YOU
WERE BROUGHT
HERE AS AN INFANT AND
SUBSEQUENTLY RESCUED
BY YOUR SISTER.

YEAH...

But I still can't
believe she did
all that.



I THOUGHT IT
WAS DESTINY--BECAUSE
I WAS MEANT TO BE
THE HEIR?



THAT MAY BE PART
OF IT--I'M NOT ONE TO
QUESTION DESTINY--BUT IT
WAS ANOTHER REASON THAT
JARETH CHOSE YOU...

IT WAS
BECAUSE OF
YOUR SISTER.



SARAH?
I DON'T
UNDERSTAND...





YOU WERE THE
BAIT TO LURE HER
HERE--TO TEST HER
WILL AND **BREAK**
IT. HE WANTED TO
POSSESS HER...

IN HIS OWN
STRANGE WAY, IT
WAS ALMOST AS IF
HE **LOVED** HER.

HOW ROMANTIC...
WHY COULDN'T
HE **BREAK** MY
WILL?! ♡

HOW
SADISTIC!



JARETH
UNDERESTIMATED YOUR
SISTER. NOT ONLY DID SHE
SOLVE THE LABYRINTH--
SHE GREW STRONGER
IN THE PROCESS.

FOR THE FIRST
TIME IN HIS LIFE,
JARETH'S WILL WAS
THWARTED.

HE DISCOVERED
THE LIMITS OF HIS
POWER AND THAT NEARLY
DESTROYED HIM... AND
THE LABYRINTH.



ALL THAT
BECAUSE OF A
BRUISED EGO?

DID YOU LEARN
NOTHING FROM
MY LESSON?



JARETH INVESTED EVERYTHING IN CREATING THE LABYRINTH TO PROTECT HIMSELF. HE NEVER INTENDED FOR ANYONE TO REACH ITS CENTER ON THEIR OWN--ONLY HIS WILL WOULD ALLOW THIS.

BY SOLVING THE LABYRINTH AND PROVING THAT HER WILL WAS EVERY BIT AS STRONG AS THE GOBLIN KING'S, JARETH WAS LEFT TOTALLY AND UTTERLY DEFENSELESS.

AND WITHOUT ITS CREATOR TO CONTROL IT, THE LABYRINTH HAD NO PURPOSE. THE SOUL OF THE LABYRINTH--THE PATHMAKER--WAS DYING.

THIS IS ALL VERY INTERESTING, BUT WHAT DOES THIS HAVE TO DO WITH ME?

SHE HAD A SPARE.

PATIENCE, GIRL. I'M GETTING TO THAT.



JARETH TRIED TO
CONVINCE US--HIS SUBJECTS--
THAT ALL WAS WELL, BUT IT
DIDN'T TAKE A FOREGOBLIN
TO KNOW THAT HIS MAJESTY
HAD LOST CONTROL OF
THE LABYRINTH.

BUT THEN, AS
IF BY MIRACLE,
JARETH'S POWER
WAS RESTORED...
FOR A TIME.

IT ALL BEGAN WHEN HE
RETURNED FROM THE MORAINÉ
KINGDOM. WHAT HE DID THERE
AND WHAT HE BROUGHT BACK,
I COULD ONLY SPECULATE
ABOUT...UNTIL NOW.



YOU, HOPPET.
HE BROUGHT
BACK YOU.





YOU'LL HAVE TO FORGIVE ME, MR. GUINN. I'M NOT USED TO HOSTING STRANGE MEN LATE AT NIGHT.

JARETH, PLEASE.



I COULDN'T HAVE HOPED FOR A BETTER HOST AFTER THE JOURNEY I'VE MADE.

SO YOU'VE JUST ARRIVED. THEN? WHERE WERE YOU PERFORMING BEFORE?

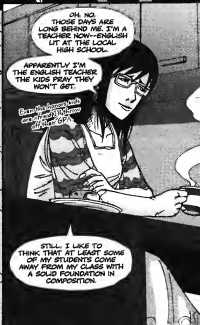
HERE, THERE... IT'S NOT IMPORTANT. I GO WHERE MY HEART TAKES ME.



THIS THEATER YOU MENTIONED--*ENIGMA LAIN*--IS IT NEW? BECAUSE I'VE NEVER SEEN IT LISTED.

THE THEATER ISN'T A PLACE--IT GOES WHERE I DO. THE SHOW IS ALWAYS CHANGING.

TELL ME ABOUT YOURSELF, SARAH. DO YOU STILL LONG FOR THE STAGE?

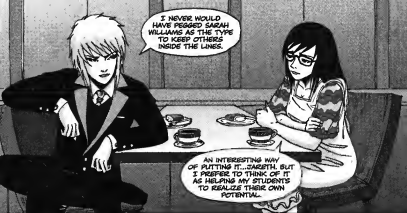


OH, NO. THOSE DAYS ARE LONG BEHIND ME. I'M A TEACHER NOW--ENGLISH LIT AT THE LOCAL HIGH SCHOOL.

APPARENTLY I'M THE ENGLISH TEACHER THE KIDS PRAY THEY WON'T GET.

Even the former high schooler who was a member of the school's drama club.

STILL, I LIKE TO THINK THAT AT LEAST SOME OF MY STUDENTS COME AWAY FROM MY CLASS WITH A SOLID FOUNDATION IN COMPOSITION.





THE LAST TIME I WENT TO THE THEATER, IT WAS FOR A SCHOOL PERFORMANCE. THE MAIN CHARACTER WAS PLAYED BY...

OH NO! SURELY SHE DOESN'T REMEMBER HER BR--



...SOME KID...I DON'T REMEMBER WHO. I THINK HE MIGHT HAVE TRANSFERRED. IT WAS KIND OF A DISASTER.

What?

At least SOME of my magic still works...



WHAT I'M TRYING TO SAY IS, I DON'T HAVE A LOT OF TIME FOR DREAMS IN MY LIFE. I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU WERE HOPING TO FIND HERE, BUT I'M QUITE SURE I CAN'T GIVE IT TO YOU.



SHE HAS CHANGED, THAT MUCH IS OBVIOUS...

...BUT THAT DEFIANT SPIRIT IS STILL THERE.



WELL, LOOK AT THE TIME! I REALLY SHOULD BE GOING.



YOU'RE A FASCINATING WOMAN, SARAH WILLIAMS. YOUR STUDENTS ARE VERY LUCKY.

IT WAS NICE MEETING YOU, JARETH...AGAIN.

GOOD LUCK WITH YOUR NEW SHOW. MAYBE I'LL STOP BY TO SEE IT.



I'M COUNTING ON IT.

IF ONLY YOU KNEW THE PAIN THAT AWAITS WHEN YOU ARRIVE...



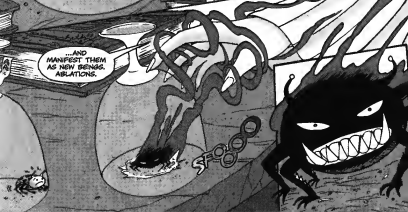




EVERY LIVING THING IS
MADE UP OF CONFLICTING
ASPECTS. LOVE, HATE,
FEAR, HOPE...



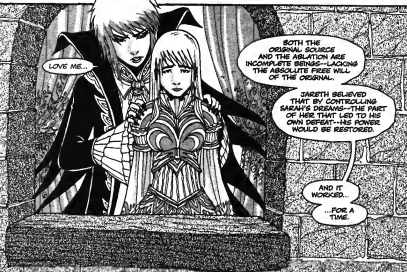
MY GREATEST
POWER--A GIFT
POSSESSED BY NONE
OTHER--IS THE ABILITY
TO EXTRACT SUCH
ASPECTS...



...AND
MANIFEST THEM
AS NEW BEINGS.
ABLATIONS.

SFOOO











LISTEN CLOSELY, MAYOR. THIS GIRL IS DANGEROUS.

SHE CAN STAY, BUT SHE IS NOT TO BE LEFT UNSUPERVISED, AND UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES IS SHE TO BE ALLOWED TO EXPLORE THE CASTLE.

SHOULD SHE ACT STRANGELY, MENTION ANYTHING ABOUT ME... OR ABOUT A LOCKED ROOM...

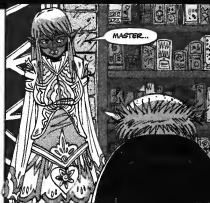
...GIVE HER THIS.



IF I FIND THAT EITHER OF YOU FAIL TO COMPLY WITH MY WISHES, YOU'LL EACH FIND YOURSELVES IN YOUR OWN PRIVATE CUBICLES FASTER THAN YOU CAN SKIN A SCAB RAT.



NOW YOU KNOW WHY I WAS SO NERVOUS ABOUT YOU GOING TO THE CASTLE...



MASTER...





IF THE ABLATION IS REABSORBED, THE STOLEN ASPECT WILL BE RESTORED...

...BUT THE MEMORIES AND PERSONALITY OF THE ABLATION WILL BE LOST....



Gasp!

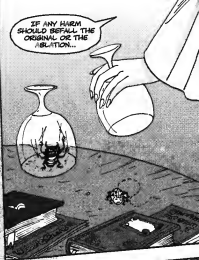
...LIKE A DROP OF WATER FALLING BACK INTO A POND.



IF YOU WANT ME TO RESTORE YOUR SISTER, TOBY, YOU MUST GAIN CONTROL OF THE LABYRINTH SO THAT YOU CAN SUMMON HER HERE TO ME.



SARAH... MOPPET... WHAT DO I DO?





NO!

YOU HAVE TO
FIX MY SISTER!
I'LL FIND A WAY TO
BRING HER HERE, I
PROMISE!



TOBY...IT'S MY
LIFE, TOO. I KNOW YOU
CARE ABOUT YOUR SISTER,
BUT...MAYBE THERE'S
ANOTHER WAY.



WITHOUT THE
MISSING ABLATION,
YOUR SISTER WILL
NEVER BE WHOLE.



I'M SORRY,
MOPPET. IT'S
JUST...SHE'S
MY SISTER, AND
YOU'RE--



SLAP

STOP!



TOBY...I'M...



JUST...LEAVE
ME ALONE!

MOPPET,
DEAR...WAIT!



YOU COULD HAVE
AT LEAST THOUGHT
IT OVER...YOUR
HIGHNESS.

...SORRY...

Benjamin Smith/Coleman



THIS IS A
TRAGEDY FOR
EVERYONE INVOLVED.
YOUR MAJESTY...

...BUT
IT IS ALSO A
LESSON.



BECAUSE JARETH
COULD NOT CONTROL
HIS EMOTIONS, HE
DESTROYED LIVES.

TO SAVE YOUR
SISTER, THE LABYRINTH
AND ALL THOSE WHO
LIVE WITHIN IT, YOU MUST
SUCCEED WHERE
JARETH FAILED.



AT THE CORONATION,
TOMORROW, WHEN THE
SUN IS AT ITS ZENITH...

...YOU MUST
SEIZE THE PATHMAKER--
THE HEART OF THE
LABYRINTH--AND BIND IT
TO YOUR WILL...

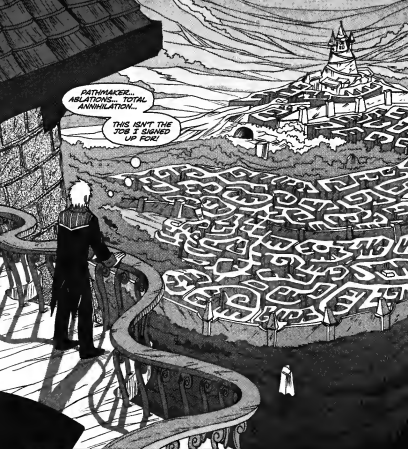
...FOR IF YOU
CANNOT, THE
LABYRINTH, ITS
INHABITANTS...

...AND EVERYONE
YOU LOVE...

...WILL BE LOST
FOREVER.



Chapter 2
SKUØ'S TALE





IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF HOURS BEFORE THE CORONATION AND I'M STILL NO CLOSER TO UNDERSTANDING WHO OR WHAT THIS PATHMAKER IS.

AND NOW THIS BUSINESS WITH SARAH--IT'S TOO MUCH!

MIZUMI SAYS IT'S A MATTER OF WILL...

...BUT HOW CAN I WILL WHAT I DON'T UNDERSTAND?



THE TIMES WHEN I USED MAGIC BEFORE...

...IT WAS JUST INSTINCT. I KNEW WHAT I HAD TO DO AND I JUST DID IT. IT WASN'T WILLPOWER AT ALL.

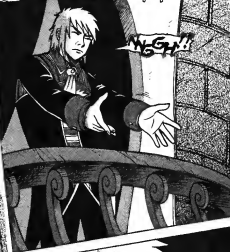


AND NOW THEY EXPECT ME TO USE MY WILL TO CONTROL THE LABYRINTH? WHAT DOES THAT EVEN MEAN?!

AS FAR AS I CAN TELL, IT'S JUST A RANDOM MESS...

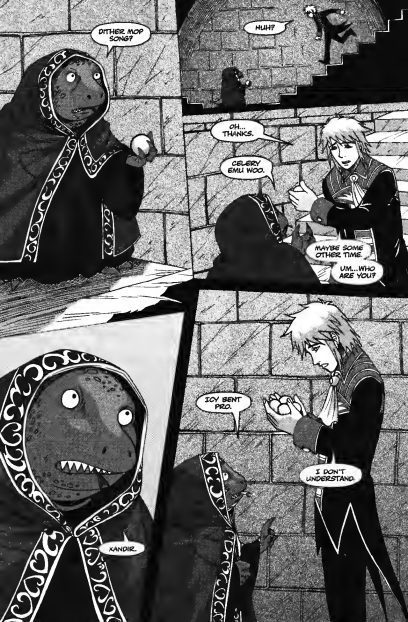


I'VE JUST GOT TO WILL IT!









DITHER MOP
SONG?

MUH?

OH...
THANKS.

CELERY
EMU WOO.

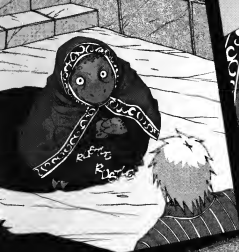
MAYBE SOME
OTHER TIME.

UM...WHO
ARE YOU?

ICY SENT
PRO.

I DON'T
UNDERSTAND.

KANDIR.

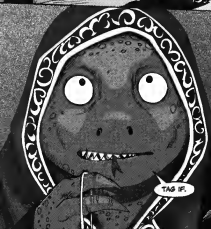


BIG FAIRY
OUTING.



I'M SORRY.
I WISH I COULD
HELP YOU, BUT--

AIR BUGGY
ION PITT UNIFY
TIBIA GLOB!



TAG IF.



A GIFT?

NO
NO









MOTHER! IT'S ABOUT TIME. I WAS STARTING TO THINK YOU WOULDN'T--



SILENCE!



YOU GRAVELY DISAPPOINT ME, DRUMLIN.

MOTHER...?

FOR THIRTEEN YEARS I'VE WAITED FOR THIS CHANCE, AND YOU RISK EVERYTHING WITH YOUR RECKLESSNESS!



YOU SAID TO KEEP THEM OUT OF YOUR WAY...I THOUGHT YOU WOULD BE PLEASED...

UNTIL I HAVE WHAT I CAME FOR. I NEED THEM ALIVE! NOT TO MENTION...



...BY PUTTING
YOURSELF AT
RISK, YOU PUT ME
AT RISK.



I-I'M SORRY,
MOTHER. IT
WON'T HAPPEN
AGAIN...

OF THAT YOU
CAN BE CERTAIN.
I'M SENDING YOU
HOME.

TO
MORAIN?

IT'S TOO
LATE FOR
THAT.





M-MOTHER...?
WH-WHAT ARE
YOU...?!

NO... YOU
DON'T HAVE TO
DO THIS...

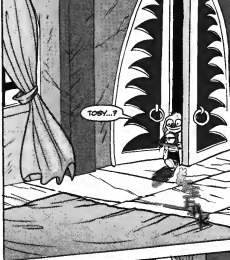
AAAGHH!!

Gasp!



I HAD
FORGOTTEN WHAT
HOPE FEELS
LIKE.

IT'S BEEN
SO LONG...







TOBY CAN'T GIVE
UP. TOBY HAS TO HOPE
THAT JARRETH KNEW
WHAT HE WAS DOING.
OTHERWISE...



SKUB...?



SKUB KNOWS
HOW HARD IT CAN
BE TO LIVE UP TO
EXPECTATIONS.



Once upon a time, when Skub
was very little, he lived with
his mama and his papa and
his three older brothers in a
little cottage in the forest.



Papa was a famous goblin warrior--the bravest goblin in the Labyrinth--and Mama was a great goblin chef who never poisoned anyone except on purpose.

We were as happy as clams in jam, yep



But after Mama died*, Papa had to give up his life of adventure and stay at home to take care of us boys.

* SEE RETURN TO LABYRINTH VOL. 2, PG. 85



Then one day--

BOYS, YER FATHER'S GETTIN' OLD AND OUR COFFERS ARE ALL BUT EMPTY. I CANNOT BE TAKIN' CARE OF YOU FOREVER.

IT'S HIGH TIME YOU GO OUT INTO THE LABYRINTH AND LEARN A TRADE. FIVE YEARS FROM NOW, WE'LL MEET AGAIN AT THIS PLACE.

WHOEVER IMPRESSES ME THE MOST WITH WHAT THEY HAVE LEARNED WILL INHERIT THIS HOUSE--THE ONLY THING I HAVE TO GIVE YOU.

WHAT ABOUT SKUB?

THE RUNT? WHOEVER IMPRESSES ME THE LEAST CAN TAKE HIM.



And so Skub's brothers left home to find their destinies while Skub stayed home with Papa...



...and five years later, on the day, they returned

SO YOU'VE ALL RETURNED AS AGREED.



NOW YOU MUST SHOW ME WHAT YOU HAVE LEARNED AND WE'LL SEE WHO IMPRESSES ME MOST.



Gargo, youngest of the three, had traveled to the Shores of E3 to learn the ancient art of Fish Carving.

I'LL GO FIRST, FATHER.

WATCH ME, FATHER, AND YOU SHALL SEE THAT MY FISH CARVING PROWESS MAKES ME WORTHY OF YOUR INHERITANCE!



So Gargo pulled out a carp and a knife and whittled away until, in no time flat...



...he had fashioned a scaly pair of overalls.

FOR YOU!





GREGH, MY SON,
YOU HAVE SAVED US ALL
FROM THEM MISERABLE
WHIGGONS.

WHATMORE, YOU
HAVE OUTDONE BARGO
WITH YOUR DISPLAY AS
SURELY AS MY SWORD
IS DULL!

NOW, NOBLE
KRAGLYST, MY ELDEST
AND WISEST--WHAT HAVE
YOU LEARNED THESE FIVE
YEARS PAST?

And then, with all eyes
locked on my big brother...



FRG BOTT



AH HAR
HAR HAR! SUCH
TIMING! YOU TRULY
HAVE MASTERED THE
ART OF COMEDY!

He ha ha!



FUNNI!



ALL OF YOU
HAVE EXCEEDED MY
EXPECTATIONS. I CANNOT
DECIDE WHO IS THE MORE
WORTHY SON.



But then, as if on cue,
fate intervened.

A
DRAGON!

THERE'S A DRAGON
IN THE LABYRINTH!
IT'S ATTACKING THE
CASTLE!

HERE IS YOUR CHANCE,
LADS! USE YOUR NEWFOUND
SKILLS AND TAKE CARE OF
THIS DRAGON AND YOU'LL
BRING FORTUNE AND GLORY
TO US ALL!

And so off they went to
confront the dragon.

UH-HUH.
THEN WHAT
HAPPENED?

TRADE SKILLS
AREN'T MUCH USE
AGAINST A DRAGON.
THEY DIED GRISLY
DEATHS. SO GRISLY...

...it broke Papa's heart.

After that, Papa decided that Skub should follow in his footsteps.

BUT, PAPA, SKUB WANTS TO BE A CHEF LIKE MAMA...

NEVER! LOOK WHERE THEM FANCY CITY SKILLS GOT YOUR MOTHER AND YOUR BROTHERS!

THE ONLY PROFESSION FIT FOR A GOBLIN IS SOLDIERY!

So that's how Skub ended up a goblin grunt.

IT IS NOT EASY BEING A SOLDIER IN THE GOBLIN ARMY—THERE IS ALWAYS A WAR GOING ON SOMEWHERE IN THE LABYRINTH, SO LIFE EXPECTANCIES ARE VERY SHORT.

SKUB ONLY SURVIVED BECAUSE HE WAS GOOD AT SNEAKING AND HIDING.

But Skub didn't want to let his papa down, so after every battle I'd write him letters about my "victories."

Skub wrote many lies... but he only meant well.

THAT'S MY BOY!
YOU'VE DONE YOUR
FATHER PROUD,
SKUB.

Then one day, fate stuck
its nose in again...

A
DRAGON!

THE DRAGON'S
RETURNED! THE
GOBLIN CITY IS UNDER
ATTACK!

HERE IS YOUR
CHANCE, SKUB! YOU CAN
AVENGE YOUR BROTHERS
AND RESTORE OUR
FAMILY'S HONOR ONCE
AND FOR ALL!

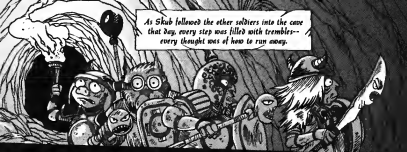
BUT,
PAPA...

Skub could not tell him the truth--
that he could not even hold a poking
stick, let alone slay a dragon.

GO GET
'EM, SKUB. YOUR
FATHER BELIEVES
IN YOU!

So against better judgments,
Skub volunteered to join the
great dragon hunt.

eye
TVEG



As Skub followed the other soldiers into the cave that day, every step was filled with trembles-- every thought was of how to run away.



And run away I would have, had not someone spotted me first.

GOING
SOMEBODY.
COWARD?



I'VE SEEN
YOU AROUND THE
BARRACKS, RUNT.
FUNNY HOW I NEVER
SEE YOU ON THE
BATTLEFIELD.

I THINK IT'S
TIME YOU EARN
YOUR KEEP.



It did not matter what they said.
Skub could not go to face the
dragon. He was too scared.

WHAT DO YOU
SAY, BOYS? SHOULD WE
SEND THE RUNT IN FIRST
TO CLEAR OUT THE
DRAGON'S LUNGS?

GET OUT OF
HERE, COWARD.
YOU'LL JUST GET
IN OUR WAY.

Ha ha ha!

Ha

ha

ha

ha!

Candlewic and the others had their victory, but made no secret of Skub's cowardice. Papa knew the truth at last--that Skub was not the hero Papa thought he was.







Chapter 3
THE PATHMAKER

The Day of the Coronation...

WON'T YOU AT
LEAST GO TO THE
CEREMONY?

NO WAY!

I KNOW HE CAN
BE A JERK SOMETIMES,
BUT HE DID SAVE OUR
LIVES AT THE TOWER.
REMEMBER?

YOU WEREN'T
THERE, HANA. YOU DIDN'T
SEE THE LOOK IN HIS
EYE WHEN HE FOUND OUT
ABOUT HIS SISTER.

IT'S
LIKE...

I WASN'T A
PERSON TO HIM
ANYMORE.



SO WHAT
ARE YOU GOING
TO DO NOW?

I DON'T
KNOW...

I CAN'T STAY
HERE. I'M NOT READY
TO FACE TOBY AGAIN...
NOT YET.



AS MUCH AS IT
SCARES ME, I DO WANT
TOBY TO SUCCEED. WE
NEED HIM TO.

WITHOUT A
WILL TO BIND IT,
THE LABYRINTH WILL
UNRAVEL.



IF WHAT MUZUMI
SAID IS TRUE, I'M AS
GOOD AS GONE ONCE
TOBY GETS HIS ACT
TOGETHER.

YOU MEAN IF
HE GETS IT TOGETHER,
UNLESS HE WENT THROUGH
A MAGIC GROWTH SPURT
LAST NIGHT, HE WON'T BE
BINDING THE LABYRINTH
ANYTIME SOON.

DON'T BELIEVE
THAT! PLEASE DON'T
BELIEVE THAT!

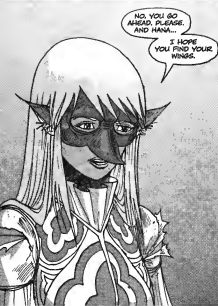


IT COULD
MEAN THE END FOR
ALL OF US.



SURE
YOU WON'T
RECONSIDER?

WE COULD
BRING ROTTEN
MARSHMELONS TO
THROW IF THINGS
GET DULL.

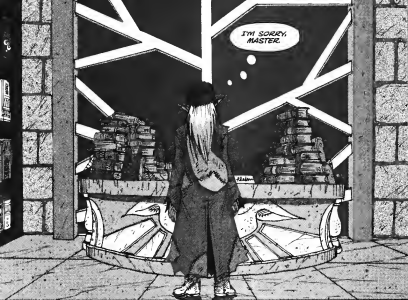


NO, YOU GO
AHEAD, PLEASE.
AND HANA...

I HOPE
YOU FIND YOUR
WINGS.



...?



HE'S
LATE!

PANGOL
SHOULD HAVE
REPORTED BACK AN
HOUR AGO!

WHAT
DO WE DO,
CAPTAIN?

WE FIND
HIM.

WITH PRINCE
TOBY'S CORONATION
ABOUT TO BEGIN, IT'S
CRUCIAL THAT WE KEEP
SECURITY TIGHT.

IF PANGOL
RAN INTO TROUBLE,
WE HAVE TO KNOW
WHAT'S BEHIND IT.

ZW!
FOLLOW
ME, MEN!
ONWARDS!

THAT'S
THE WALL,
SIR.

PERHAPS
I SHOULD
LEAD?



TOBY

Several hours later...

WE MUST HAVE COVERED HALF THE LABYRINTH BY NOW, AND STILL NO SIGN OF PANGOL.

ACTUALLY, SIR...

...I THINK WE'VE BEEN GOING IN CIRCLES.

Yes, yes.

THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE! WE HAVE A KEYSTONE!

EVERY GOSLIN WITH THE AUTHORITY TO TRAVEL THE LABYRINTH IS ASSIGNED A KEYSTONE--IT OPENS THE DOORS AND KEEPS THE PATHS STRAIGHT.

IT MAKES PATROLLING THE LABYRINTH POSSIBLE!

AS LONG AS WE CARRY THIS, THERE'S NO WAY WE CAN GET LOST.

BE THAT AS IT MAY, SIR...

...LOST, WE ARE.

HELP!!





A SCHISM? THAT
EXPLAINS WHY THE
KEYSTONE DOESN'T
WORK.

BUT THERE
HASN'T BEEN A
SCHISM IN THE
LABYRINTH IN OVER
TWELVE YEARS!



A LITTLE
HELP, PLEASE!



AIRMAN POOD!
GET A ROPE OVER
THERE!

Aye, aye,
yer, yer



Tut
Tut



HEAVE!

WGH!



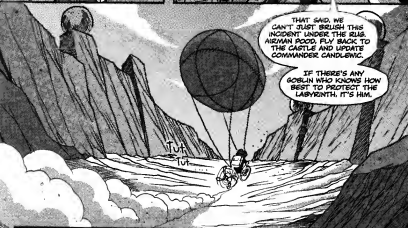
PANGOL, TAMANOU,
YOU'LL STAY HERE AND
HELP ME DEAL WITH
THE SCHISM.

AS LONG AS
IT'S AN ISOLATED
OCCURRENCE, IT'S
NOTHING TO WORRY
ABOUT.



THAT SAID, WE
CAN'T JUST BRUSH THIS
INCIDENT UNDER THE RUG.
AIRMAN POOD, FLY BACK TO
THE CASTLE AND UPDATE
COMMANDER CANDLEWIC.

IF THERE'S ANY
GOBLIN WHO KNOWS HOW
BEST TO PROTECT THE
LABYRINTH, IT'S HIM.



IT LOOKS
LIKE RAIN.



A STORM,
MAYBE. SHOULD
WE POSTPONE THE
CEREMONY?

NO, IT'S
TOO LATE FOR
THAT.

THE CORONATION
MUST TAKE PLACE TODAY.
WE CAN'T AFFORD TO
BE WITHOUT A KING
ANY LONGER.

A little mud
will just make
things more
festive!

BESIDES,
THE AUDIENCE
IS ALREADY
GATHERING.

WHERE'S
OUR KING-
TO-BE?







TORY,
SO-CALLED HER,
YOU MUST NOT
DON THE GOBLIN
CROWN.

AND YOU ARE?
I HEARD HOW YOUR
LITTLE PET THERE
HELPED DRUMLIN ATTACK
MY FRIENDS.

AND I SUPPOSE
YOU'RE HERE TO
STOP ME?

KEEP IT UP
MOULIN, AND YOU'LL
END UP SHARING YOUR
SISTER'S FATE.

NO...TO
WARN YOU.

MY MOTHER
IS NOT TO BE
TRUSTED.

YOU'RE MORE
RIGHT THAN YOU
KNOW...



TOBY, PLEASE!
THERE'S NO TIME!
YOU HAVE TO
TRUST ME.

WHY ARE
YOU TELLING
ME THIS?

I HAVE MY
REASONS.

MY MOTHER MADE
SOME KIND OF WAGER
WITH JARETH--A WAGER
THAT HE LOST.

WHEN THE TIME COMES,
SHE'LL CLAIM THE LABYRINTH
FOR HERSELF--AND IF YOU
ACCEPT THAT CROWN,
SHE'LL CLAIM YOU TOO.



YOU HAVE
TO LEAVE THIS
PLACE--NOW!

I CAN'T
DO THAT.

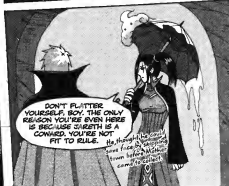
EVEN IF
YOU'RE TELLING THE
TRUTH, YOU CAN'T
EXPECT ME TO JUST
RUN AWAY.



THESE GOBLINS
NEED ME. MY FRIENDS NEED
ME. WITH JARETH GONE, I'M
THE ONLY ONE WHO HAS A
CHANCE OF CONTROLLING
THE LABYRINTH.

NOT THAT I'VE
EXACTLY MASTERED
THE WHOLE CONTROL
THING YET...

NOT TO
MENTION, I HAVE
TO FIND A WAY TO
HELP SARAH.



DON'T FLATTER
YOURSELF, BOY. THE ONLY
REASON YOU'RE EVEN HERE
IS BECAUSE JARETH IS A
CONARD. YOU'RE NOT
FIT TO RULE.

He thought he could
save face by stepping
down before Mother
came to collect.

LIAR...COWARD...
JARETH HAS CERTAINLY
MADE HIS SHARE OF
ENEMIES.

BUT HE'S ALSO
RESPONSIBLE FOR
CREATING THIS
PLACE.

FOR ALL ITS
QUIRKS...ITS TRAPS...ITS
NONSENSICAL RULES...
I'VE REALLY GROWN TO
LIKE THIS PLACE.

IF THE LABYRINTH
IS TRULY JARETH'S
HEART, CAN HE BE
ALL BAD?

I'M SORRY,
MOULIN. I HAVE
TO BELIEVE JARETH
KNEW WHAT HE
WAS DOING.

I'M GOING
OUT THERE.

THEN YOU'RE
A BIGGER FOOL
THAN JARETH
EVER WAS.

MAKING
NEW FRIENDS,
MOULIN?

ESKER!

SHE KNOWS!

Gasp!

GO BACK TO YOUR FREEZER, OR I'LL TELL MOTHER THAT YOU'VE BEEN STALKING ME AGAIN.

Glow

AH, BUT YOUR MOTHER WAS THE ONE WHO ASKED ME TO KEEP AN EYE ON YOU.

SEEMS SHE DOESN'T TRUST YOU.

I CAN'T IMAGINE WHY NOT.

NOW, BE A GOOD GIRL AND GO BACK TO YOUR ROOM.

DON'T YOU KNOW, ESKER?

Click



GOOD GIRLS
DON'T WEAR
BLACK!



AAAGH!



SLURP

Whoosh!



SORRY TO
HAVE TO GIVE YOU THE
COLD SHOULDER, OLD-
TIMER, BUT I'VE GOT
OTHER PLANS.

I'M NOT
GOING BACK! I
WON'T LET HER
HAVE ME!



KLIISH

DOOM



I'M THROUGH
ASKING NICELY.

YOU WON'T
HURT ME...YOU
DARE NOT HURT
ME!



NIMBUS, GO!
FIND HELP!



I DON'T NEED TO
HURT YOU. I JUST NEED
TO KEEP YOU ON ICE UNTIL
LADY MIZUMI CAN TEND
TO YOU HERSELF.



YOU
MONSTER!



I TRUST THERE
WILL BE NO MORE
TROUBLE.



OH DEAR, OH DEAR...
THE SUN IS ALMOST AT
ZENITH. THE AUDIENCE IS
GETTING DOWNRIGHT HOMICIDAL
AND TO TOP IT OFF, WE'VE GOT
SCHISMS FORMING IN
THE LABYRINTH!

SO, ARE WE GOING TO
DO THIS CORONATION
THING OR WHAT?

SO, YOU'LL TAKE
YOUR SEAT IN THE THRONE
OF ASCENSION WHERE YOU
WILL PLAY WITNESS TO THE
PROCESSION OF FLAGS, AFTER
THAT IS THE DISPLAYING OF
THE ROYAL JEWELS...

CAN WE
JUST SKIP TO
THE IMPORTANT
PART?

YOUR HIGHNESS!
THE CORONATION
CEREMONY IS A SACRED
TRADITION! IT IS NOT TO
BE TAKEN LIGHTLY!

SORRY! NO
TIME TO EXPLAIN!
WE'RE HERE!

WAIT!
WHAT ABOUT
THE PATHMAKER?
WHAT HAPPENS
NEXT?!

YOUR
HIGHNESS!

WHAT KEPT YOU?
I WAS WORRIED
WARTLESS!

COME THIS WAY.
I'LL EXPLAIN AS
WE WALK.

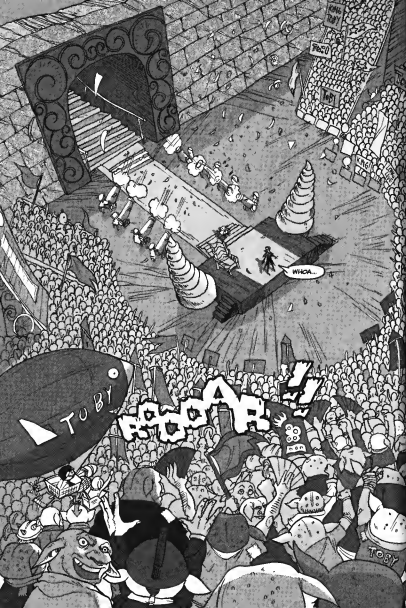
...THEN COMES
THE SALUTE OF
A THOUSAND
HORNS...

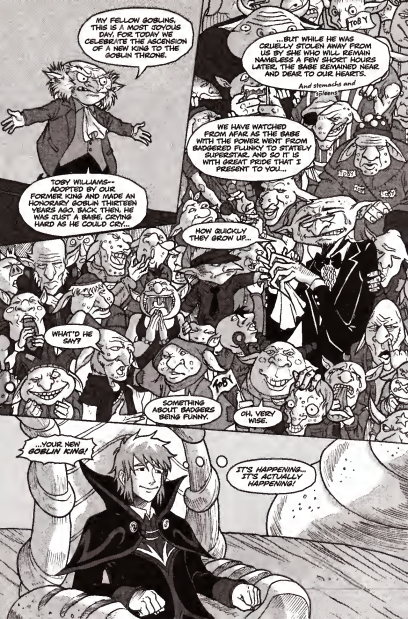
I'M SORRY.
I PROMISE
TO...

HEY! I THOUGHT
JARETH WAS THE
FIRST AND ONLY
GOBLIN KING!

HOW CAN THIS
CEREMONY BE A
TRADITION?!

Thump!





MY FELLOW GOBLINS,
THIS IS A MOST JOYOUS
DAY, FOR TODAY WE
CELEBRATE THE ASCENSION
OF A NEW KING TO THE
GOBLIN THRONE.

...BUT WHILE HE WAS
CRUELLY STOLEN AWAY FROM
US BY SHE WHO WILL REMAIN
NAMELESS A FEW SHORT HOURS
LATER, THE BABE REMAINED NEAR
AND DEAR TO OUR HEARTS.

And stomachs and
spleens

WE HAVE WATCHED
FROM AFAR AS THE BABE
WITH THE POWER WENT FROM
BADGERED FLUNKY TO STATELY
SUPERSTAR, AND SO IT IS
WITH GREAT PRIDE THAT I
PRESENT TO YOU...

TOBY WILLIAMS--
ADOPTED BY OUR
FORMER KING AND MADE AN
HONORARY GOBLIN THIRTEEN
YEARS AGO. BACK THEN, HE
WAS JUST A BABE, CRYING
HARD AS HE COULD CRY...

HOW QUICKLY
THEY GROW UP...

WHAT'D HE
SAY?

SOMETHING
ABOUT BADGERS
BEING FUNNY.

OH, VERY
WISE.

...YOUR NEW
GOBLIN KING!

IT'S HAPPENING...
IT'S ACTUALLY
HAPPENING!

OF COURSE,
THAT ASSUMES THE HEIR
SURVIVES THE TRIAL OF
ASCENSION. BUT FIRST...THE
PARADE OF FLAGS!

SURVIVE? WAIT--
WHATT?!

HERE THEY COME!
FLAGS FROM EVERY
CORNER OF THE
LABYRINTH!

Hey! What's this
trial business?

OF COURSE, WITH SO
MANY TWISTS AND TURNS
IN THE LABYRINTH, THAT
MAKES OVER 47,000
CORNERS!

Several hours later...

Zzz...

...47,361,
47,362 AND LAST
BUT NOT LEAST,
47,363!

I KNOW YOU'RE
ALL LOOKING FORWARD
TO THE DEATHLY
DIFFICULT TRIAL OF
ASCENSION...

WHA--?!

...WHICH WILL
TAKE PLACE AFTER
THE SALUTE OF
A THOUSAND
HORNS!

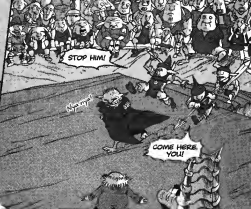
OH GREAT...THIS
CEREMONY'S
GOING TO TAKE
ALL DAY!

THE THOUSAND-
HORNED HORROR

yo.

DA-
DA-
DA-
W!





GOBLINS AND
GRUNTLED KIN--THE
ROYAL JEWELS!



YUP, THEY
WENT THERE.



NOTE TO SELF--
FOR MY FIRST ACT
AS KING, OUTLAW
ALL PUNS, GAGS AND
PRATTLES.

This is getting
ridiculous!



ORDER, EVERYONE.
ORDER! THE TIME HAS
COME FOR THE TRIAL
OF ASCENSION!

THIS MOST SACRED
OF RITES WILL BE
PERFORMED BY THE
HOLIEST OF ALL
GOBLINS...





...PONTIFEX
MYNOSACYRICA.

TOSBY WILLIAMS
OF THE REALM OF
MEN--YOU WOULD TAKE
THE CROWN OF
GOBLIN KING.

TO BE GOBLIN
KING IS MORE THAN
TO HOLD A TITLE.

IT IS
MORE THAN AN
OCCUPATION.

TO BE KING IS TO
FORFEIT SELF AT THE
EXPENSE OF ALL. IT IS
TO DEFINE ALL BY
THE SELF.

PLEASE
RISE.



AS HEIR, THE
"CROWN" IS YOURS TO
TAKE, BUT FIRST YOU
MUST PASS THE TEST.

FAILURE
MEANS UNDOING, FOR
YOURSELF AND THE
LABYRINTH. ONCE YOU
BEGIN, YOU CANNOT
TURN BACK.



WILL YOU
ENTER THE TRIAL,
TOBY WILLIAMS?

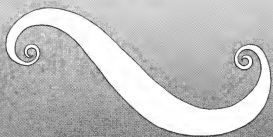
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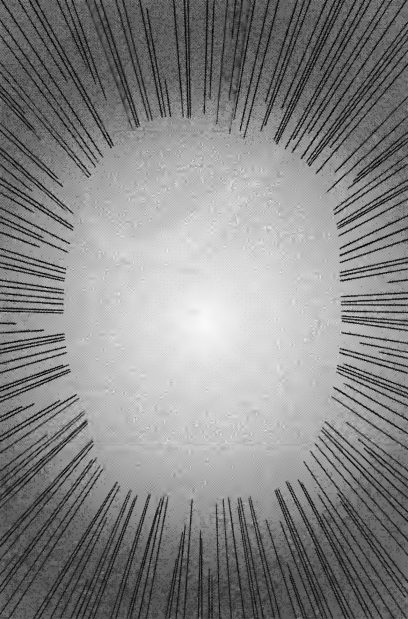


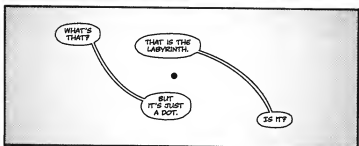
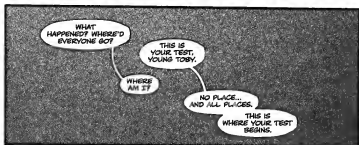
I WILL.

VERY
WELL.









A WALL?

JUST A LINE
STRETCHING
INFINITELY IN BOTH
DIRECTIONS.

BUT IF
I LOOK AT IT
FROM HERE...

AH! NOW
YOU HAVE FOUND
THE WALL.

HOW
DO WE GET
THROUGH?

YOU DON'T.
IT HAS NO
OPENINGS.

YOU HAVE
TO HAVE WALLS.
OTHERWISE, HOW DO
YOU KNOW WHAT
SIDE YOU'RE ON?

OF COURSE,
YOU COULD
ALWAYS...

I CHANGE
SIDES.



If Toby takes the door on the left, turn to Volume 2, Pg. 60

If Toby takes the door on the right, turn to Volume 2, Pg. 61

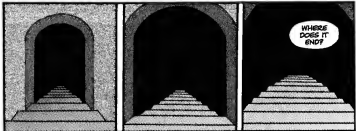


I DON'T TAKE
A DOOR. I TAKE
THE STAIRS.

WHERE DO
THEY LEAD?



DOWN.



WHERE
DOES IT
END?



WITH A
DOT.





Chapter 4
OBSESSION

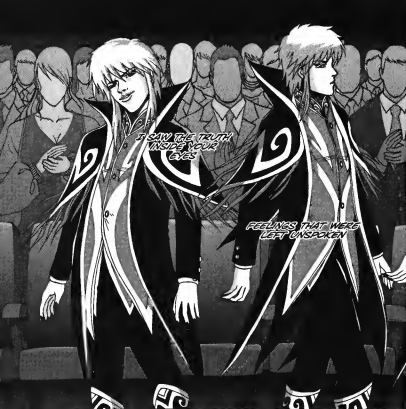


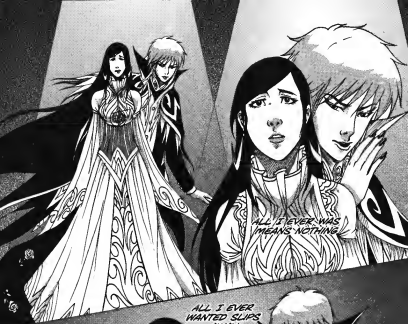












ALL I EVER WAS
MEANS NOTHING



ALL I EVER
WANTED SLIPS
AWAY



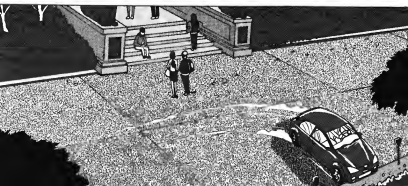
ALL I EVER HAD
DESCENDS TO
RUIN

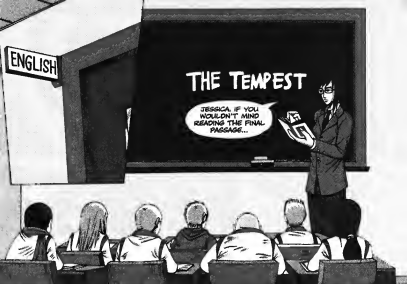


AND YOU ARE
MY DESTROYER

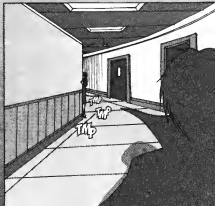


Gasp!









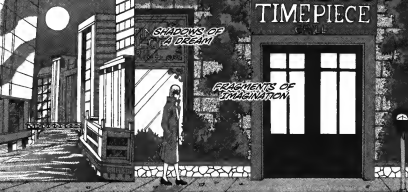
EXIT

AN ERRANT
WISH, AN ACT
OF KINDNESS

O FOOLISH GIRL, WHY
DON'T YOU SEE?

BECAUSE
OF YOU I
WALK IN
BLINDNESS

...?









KLAK
KLAK
KLAK
KLAK

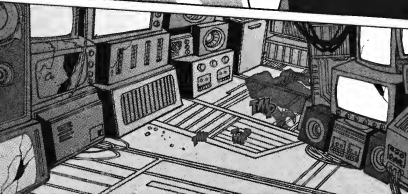
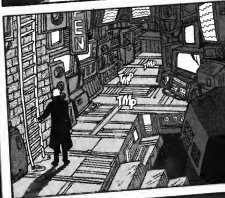
SPLISH



I'M GETTING
CLOSE...













WHAT AN HONOR. IT IS TO SEE YOU AGAIN. SIT, SIT! MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME.



YOU HAVEN'T LOST IT. HAVE YOU, COB?

LOST? OH, NO. NO, YOUR TALLNESS.

KEPT IT SAFE FOR YOUR ARRIVAL, JUST LIKE YOU ASKED.

KEPT IT CLOSE.



LEMME JUST GO FETCH IT FOR YOU.

I WOULD HATE TO THINK THAT YOU WOULD BETRAY ME.



WHO, ME? HEH HEH...





THEY CAN EVEN
STORE THEIR POWER
IN THESE TINY LITTLE
THINGS CALLED
"BAT" RIES.



COURSE THIS
"LECTRICTY" ISN'T
NEARLY AS POWERFUL
AS THE MAGIC YOU'RE
USED TO, YOUR
CLEANLINESS...



...BUT WHEN
PAIRED WITH THIS
PIECE OF YOUR
HEART...



...IT CAN BE
VERY POWERFUL
INDEED.



THE
SHARD!



WHILE IN THE
LABYRINTH, YOUR POWER
WANED. THE POWER IN THE
SHARD, REMOVED FROM
YOUR DOMAIN, REMAINED AS
POTENT AS THE DAY YOU
CARVED IT OUT.



OF COURSE, THAT WAS
YOUR PLAN ALL ALONG.
SPLINTER OFF A PIECE OF
YOUR HEART AND SAVE IT
FOR A RAINY DAY?



AND OLD
COB--COB
THE GOB, COB
THE EXILE...

...WHAT'S
COB GET FROM
THE DEAL?



HE GETS
GNAWED TO THE
CORE AND KICKED
TO THE CURB.

NO CONTACT
WITH THE REST OF HIS
KIND. NO DOORWAY HOME,
AND NEVER SO MUCH AS
A POSTCARD FROM HIS
BUDDY JURETH.

HAD TO MAKE
HIS OWN FRIENDS
TO KEEP FROM
GOING MAD.



YOU KNEW
THE TERMS,
COB.

WOULD YOU
RATHER I HAD FED
YOU TO THE BOSS? YOU
DESERVED NO LESS FOR
YOUR BETRAYAL.

NOW, HAND
IT OVER.



TRUTH BE
TOLD, GOBLIN KING
THAT WAS...



...I DON'T
MUCH FEEL LIKE
GIVING IT UP.



ONCE A
TRAITOR, ALWAYS
A TRAITOR.



WITH THIS,
I CAN BE KING HERE!
WHY WOULD I GIVE THAT
UP FOR A POWERLESS
WORM LIKE YOU?



THIS AIN'T YOUR
WORLD, JARETH--
IT'S MINE

HAS BEEN
EVER SINCE YOU
BOILED ME FROM
THE LABYRINTH!



THIS IS
QUITE A KINGDOM
YOU'VE MADE FOR
YOURSELF, COB.

IT WOULD BE A
PITY IF SOMETHING
HAPPENED TO YOUR
SUBJECTS.



HM?



RESISTANCE
IS FUTILE...

YOU ARE VERY
FOND OF YOUR
TOYS, AREN'T
YOU?



MANDELBROT!

JARETH, YOU
MONSTER! DON'T
HURT THE LITTLE
FELLA!



TOYS

CATCH.



NO!!



OH, MANDELBROT:
YER SAFE NOW...





GOD, GOD...
WHATEVER WILL I
DO WITH YOU?

I-I WAS
ONLY JOKIN', YER
MAJESTY! PLEASE,
D-DON'T KILL ME...

KILL YOU?
OF COURSE
NOT.

AND YET, I
CAN'T HAVE MY
SUBJECTS THINKING
I'VE GONE SOFT.

A "POWERLESS
WORM" IS THAT WHAT
YOU CALLED ME?



FWASH

EX-TERMINATE!

ENJOY YOUR
TOYS, GOS.





Queen of Cups

Chapter 5
REIGN FALL

King of Swords



The Hanged Man

The Fool





RISE,
GOBLIN
KING.

SHE'S
READY.

TAKE ME
TO HER.

OF
COURSE.

YOU HAVE
SWORN BY YOUR
BLOOD, GOBLIN KING.
IN THIRTEEN YEARS, I
PROMISE YOU, I WILL
COME TO COLLECT.

AND I
PROMISE YOU, YOU
SHALL NEVER
HAVE MY HEART.

YOU
DIDN'T HURT
HER, DID YOU?
THE HUMAN?

A STRANGE
QUESTION COMING FROM
YOU WHO WOULD SEVER
HER SOUL, BUT NO
SHE FELT NO PAIN.

IN HERE.





HEH
HE
HEH...



EH?



HA HA HA
HA HA!

OH, JARETH. VERY
GOOD! YOU KNEW THIS
WOULD HAPPEN ALL
ALONG, DIDN'T YOU, YOU
INCORRIGIBLE CAT?



CHP
CHP CHP

GO AHEAD,
KEEP YOUR
HEART.

WITHOUT POWER,
WHAT USE IS IT TO
ME ANYWAY?



BUT A
DEAL'S A
DEAL.



GOBLIN KING OF
LABYRINTH...



FROM THE
WATERS OF THE
WEST I COME...



...TO CLAIM THE
KINGDOM I WAS
PROMISED!



THROUGH
TWISTING STONE
AND TRIALS OF
FIRE...



Hurk!









WHAT'S THE
MATTER, MEN? ARE
YOU AFRAID OF
GETTING WET?

THEY'RE
ONLY PUDDLE
PEOPLE!

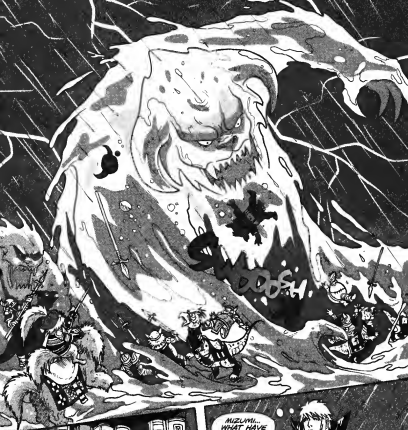


CHAAAARGE!!

SPLDOSH!







"A PROMISE OF
YORE, BORN OF BLOOD
WILL OPEN A PATH TO
LABYRINTH'S HEART..."

...AND USHER
FORTH A WONDEROUS
FLOOD--A NEW ERA
THEN SHALL START."

AUZUMU...
WHAT HAVE
YOU DONE?







IT
WORKED!



GLARE



UH, UH.
UH, TOBY DEAR.
NONE OF THAT.



NOT THAT I
HAVE ANY INTENTION
IN HURTING THE
LITTLE SCAMPS.

WHAT'S A
QUEEN WITHOUT
HER SUBJECTS?











THE BOY
HAS FIGHT LEFT
IN HIM YET!

LET ME FINISH
HIM OFF, YOUR
HIGHNESS! I'LL
KILL HIM!

PATIENCE, SIR
BETRAYER. I STILL
NEED THE BOY.



GRRR...



THE ERA OF
THE GOBLIN KING
IS OVER.

JARETH IS
GONE AND HIS REIR
BELONGS TO ME IN
BODY AND SOUL.

BOW TO ME,
CREATURES OF THE
LABYRINTH, OR BE
WASHED AWAY, YOU
CANNOT STAY THE
TIDES OF FATE.

JARETH...

YOU STOLE
MY HEART AND
LEFT IT TO
WITHER.

YOU
BUILT ALL
THIS TO KEEP
ME OUT.

NOW THE
SCALES ARE
BALANCED.

I ONLY WISH
YOU COULD BE
HERE TO SEE YOUR
KINGDOM FALL.

KOOM!

ALL THAT
NOISE... WHAT'S
HAPPENING BACK
THERE? MAYBE I
SHOULD...

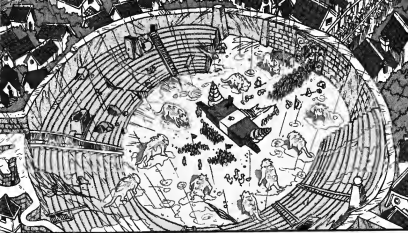
NO, I'M
NOT GOING BACK.
NEVER AGAIN.

SOME THINGS
ARE BETTER LEFT
FORGOTTEN.



Chapter 6
SHADOWS OF A DREAM







WOT ABOUT
HIM, MASTER
CANDLEWICK



LEAVE
HIM.



LET HIS BODY SERVE
AS A REMINDER OF WHAT
HAPPENS TO GOBLINS WHO
WOULD LICK THE BOOTS
OF HUMAN SCUM.



OH, BUT I
LIKES TO LICK
BOOTS!

ME TOO!
SPECIALLY WHEN
THEY'VE STILL GOT
SOCKS IN THEM.

I MEANT
IT META-
PHORICALLY!

THAT'S RIGHT!
THEY'RE HIGH
IN FIBER!

AND TOE
JAM!



STARE...



SOUNDS
LIKE SOMEONE'S
BEEN SPENDIN' TOO
MUCH TIME IN THE
FANCY PANTS.





I'M SORRY YOU
HAD TO GET CAUGHT
IN THE MIDDLE OF THIS
WAR OF WILLS, TOBY.
I TRULY AM.

SO MUCH
PRESSURE FOR
ONE SO YOUNG AND
INNOCENT.

JUST LIKE
HER...



YOU DID
ALL YOU COULD.
YOU DID WHAT YOU
HAD TO.

HAD YOU
FAILED YOUR TRIAL,
THE LABYRINTH
WOULD HAVE NO
KING--NO SOURCE OF
STRENGTH TO REPLACE
THE VACUUM LEFT BY
THE COWARD JARETH.
ALL WOULD HAVE
BEEN DESTROYED.



STILL, A PROMISE
IS A PROMISE. YOU HAVE
ONLY JARETH AND HIS
TRICKS TO BLAME
FOR YOUR FATE.

WHAT ARE YOU
GOING TO DO WITH
THE LABYRINTH?



DO WITH IT? I
DON'T CARE ABOUT
THESE BRICK WALLS--
IT'S WHAT IT HOLDS
THAT I WANT.

WHAT ARE YOU
TALKING ABOUT?! YOU
OBVIOUSLY DON'T CARE
ABOUT THE GOBLINS
WHO LIVE HERE!

THE SOURCE OF
THE LABYRINTH'S
POWER...

THE THING
THAT WAS TAKEN
FROM ME A THOUSAND
YEARS AGO...



JARETH'S
HEART.

I WILL BREAK
IT, JUST AS HE
BROKE MINE.

AND YOU'RE
GOING TO GIVE
IT TO ME.

WHERE IS THE
PATHMAKER?

I... I
CAN'T...

YOU PASSED
THE TRIAL--YOU
MUST KNOW
WHERE IT IS!

TELL ME WHERE
IT IS SO I CAN END ITS
CRUEL EXISTENCE
ONCE AND FOR ALL!



I ORDER
YOU TO BRING ME
THE PATHMAKER!
BY RIGHTS, YOU
MUST OBEY!



"THE
PATHMAKER
IS YOU."

SHE
DOESN'T
KNOW!

IT'S ALREADY
RIGHT IN FRONT
OF HER!



I DON'T KNOW
HOW YOU RESIST, TOY
KING, BUT YOUR WILL
CANNOT OPPOSE MINE
FOR LONG.



THE BATTLE
MUST HAVE TAKEN
MORE OUT OF ME THAN
I REALIZED.

A FEW
HOURS REST, YES.
THAT'S IT...

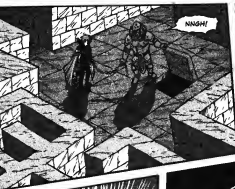


GENERAL
CANDLEWICK!



YES, YOUR
MAJESTY?

TAKE THE BOY
SOMEPLACE WHERE
HE WON'T CAUSE
ANY MISCHIEF.















JUST LIKE
YOU DID MY
SISTER.



YOU ALWAYS WERE
THE RESOURCEFUL ONE.
I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN
YOU'D FIND OUT
THE TRUTH.



WHY WOULD
YOU DO IT?

WHY WOULD
YOU CREATE US KNOWING
THAT WE WERE DESTINED
TO DIE WITH YOU OR
WITHIN YOU?



BECAUSE I
COULD NOT TAKE
THE PAIN OF LIVING
WITH HEARTBREAK
ANY LONGER.



I TOOK AWAY
THE FEELINGS THAT
BOUNDED ME TO HIM
AND CREATED THE
TWO OF YOU.



A PITY YOU
DIDN'T COME TO ME
WITH YOUR TROUBLES
INSTEAD OF HIM.

WE COULD
HAVE FOUND
ANOTHER WAY.

YOU SAID
THERE WAS NO
OTHER WAY!

OF COURSE
THERE IS. I JUST
DIDN'T WANT THEM
TO KNOW THAT.



IT DOESN'T
MATTER
NOW.

NOW THAT THE
LINK OF TRUST IS
SEVERED, YOU ARE TOO
MUCH OF A LIABILITY.



YOU KNOW
I SPEAK TRUE WHEN
I SAY THIS WILL HURT
ME AS MUCH AS IT
HURTS YOU.



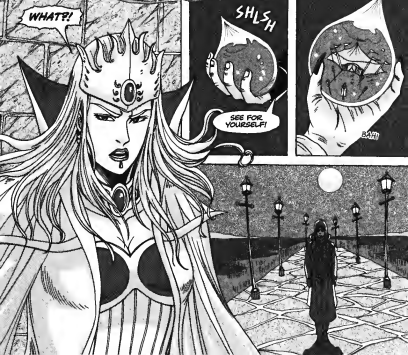
LADY MIZUMI!



IT'S JARETH!
HE'S MADE
CONTACT WITH THE
HUMAN WOMAN!

YES, YES. BUT
THE KING THAT WAS IS
POWERLESS. IN HIS
STATE, HE CAN CHANGE
NOTHING.

SOMEHOW,
MILADY, HE
FOUND POWER.



WHAT?!

SHLSH

SEE FOR
YOURSELF!

BAH!



THIS CAN'T BE
ALLOWED TO HAPPEN!
GO TO THE HUMAN
WORLD AND STOP
THEM!

NATURALLY
MY FIRST INSTINCT,
EXCELLENCY, BUT TRY AS
I MIGHT, I CANNOT LEAVE
THE LABYRINTH.



THE
PATHMAKER
AGAIN!



KRS!



PERHAPS...



...THERE
IS ANOTHER
WAY...



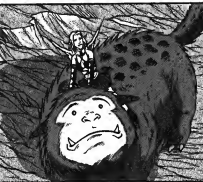
LUCKY GIRL,
YOU'VE WON A REPRIEVE.
WHY DON'T YOU GO
AHEAD AND FINISH
THAT CHAPTER.

MUMMY'S
GOT WORK
TO DO.



KILL THE
ABLATION...

...AND THE
ORIGINAL DIES
WITH IT.



In the next volume of

Jim Henson's
**RETURN TO
LABYRINTH**

It seems Moulin has won a temporary reprieve from her Mother's terrible wrath, but for how long?

Sweet, scared little Skub has at last found the strength to be brave, but what price will he pay for his kindness?

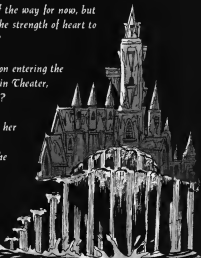
They are safe for the moment, but what can Hana and Stank possibly do that will make a difference against the powerful Mizumi?

Toby has been put aside and out of the way for now, but when the time comes will he find the strength of heart to free himself and save his kingdom?

What is it that Sarah will find upon entering the ominous grounds of the Enigma Lain Theater, and what are Jareth's plans for her?

And lastly, has poor Moppet sealed her fate, dooming not only herself and Sarah, but the entire populace of the Labyrinth, as well?

**DO'NT MISS THE EXCITING
FINAL INSTALLMENT!**



It's hard to believe, but it has been four years since *Return to Labyrinth* first appeared out of the ether; an unexpected sequel to a cult classic that for years flew outside the radar. Much has changed in the story since I first proposed the project to TokyoPop. On the first draft, *Return to Labyrinth* read like a fanboy's imitation of a Monty Python sketch, my gushing admiration for the film's screenwriter Terry Jones all too apparent. Another dead-end draft borrowed heavily from the shojo manga series I was editing at the time, with Jareth playing the part of a sexy schoolteacher in a romantic comedy (in which +Lana the wingless fairy would play the part of Jareth's reluctant cupid, no less). A lot has changed since then (hopefully for the better!), but through all the drafts, one goal has remained the same -- to expand on a world born of imagination, where nothing is what it seems.

I know it's been a long wait so far, and as this penultimate volume comes to a close, I'm afraid I must ask you to wait yet again. Volume 4 will see Toby's story to a close, but there are still a few dramatic knots to untie before it goes to press. In the meantime, if you are interested in finding out more about *Return to Labyrinth*, or want to share your hopes and gripes with others, I encourage you to check out www.gobblin.net. For those who have yet to visit, a healthy chunk of concept art, deleted scenes and other behind the scenes ephemera await. For regular readers, I'll try not to keep you updated without spoiling anything!

Thanks, Chris, for brining *Return to Labyrinth* to life with ever-greater detail. Thank you to Rob for getting the series off on the right foot, Tim for taking it to the next level and Bryce for bringing her home. Thank you to Jess for keeping me honest and being my pillar of support. Carol, Sarah and one Juggler Mouse -- I am so grateful for your honest feedback along the way. A big thanks to all the readers of gobblin.net -- you guys (well, girls mostly) have helped me get to the heart of *Labyrinth*'s appeal, and for that I'm ever in your debt. And of course, thank you to the folks at +lenson who keep Jim's dream alive.

See you in Volume 4!

Jake T. Forbes

And now, for you fans of all things
Henson, we've got a special treat!
TOKYOPOP is proud to present a
very special sneak peek at some of the
wonderful work in progress from
Legends of The Dark Crystal, volume 2!

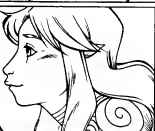
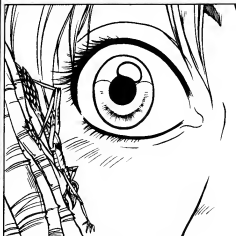
Artwork by the talented Heidi Arnhold.

Enjoy!

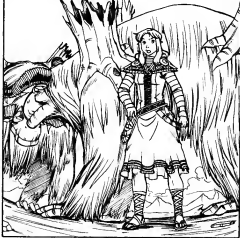














Coming soon from TOKYOPOP!

WRITER

JAKE T. FORBES

Jake T. Forbes is one of the leading scholars of Goblinology. After a visitation by the Goblin King himself,* Forbes abandoned a life of editing manga hits like *Fruits Basket* and *Fullmetal Alchemist* and dedicated his days to translating the original notebooks of sir Froud and Jones, unraveling the riddles of the Thin White Duke and memorizing every frame in master Henson's cinematic account of the "Great Goblin Meddling of '86." While Forbes has not been to the Labyrinth himself, nor has he spoken with any of the participants, he insists that every word in *Return to Labyrinth* is true.

* Visitation unconfirmed by the GWI (*Goblin Watchers International*)

ILLUSTRATOR

CHRIS LIE

Since obtaining his Masters Degree in Sequential Art from the Savannah College of Art and Design in 2005, Chris Lie has been producing artwork for *G.I. Joe*, *Dungeons & Dragons*, *Voltron*, *Bionic Commando*, and his original co-created series; *Drafted*. He is now managing Caravan Studio, an illustration and concept art studio, working on graphic novels, toy packaging, and concept design for video games. Recently, his artwork was featured as the inside cover of *Street Fighter IV* X360 US Regular Edition.



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